

VZCZCXRO8841
PP RUEHAST RUEHHM RUEHLN RUEHMA RUEHPB RUEHPOD RUEHTM RUEHTRO
DE RUEHKO #0492 0630818
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 040818Z MAR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1214
INFO RUEHZN/ENVIRONMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COLLECTIVE
RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA 4417
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI 1119
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8043
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 2745
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 0544
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 5093
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6535
RUEHKS/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 3296
RUEHRC/USDA FAS WASHDC 8602
RUEAUSA/DEPT OF HHS WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 000492

DEPT FOR AIAG, OES, AND EAP/J
USDA PASS TO APHIS
HHS PASS TO CDC
HHS FOR OGHA
DEPT PASS TO AID/GH/HIDN

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [TBIO](#) [KFLU](#) [KSTH](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [SOCI](#) [CASC](#) [JA](#)
SUBJECT: JAPAN AVIAN INFLUENZA UPDATE

REF: A. 05 STATE 153802
[1](#)B. 08 TOKYO 1214 AND PREVIOUS
[1](#)C. 06 TOKYO 2135

[1](#)1. No human outbreaks of H5N1 Avian Influenza (AI) were reported in Japan during the period of May 2, 2008 to March 4, 2009.

H7N6 Detected in Quail in Aichi Prefecture

[1](#)2. The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) announced February 27 that local officials detected the H7 avian influenza virus during routine testing at a quail farm in Toyohashi, Aichi Prefecture. The National Institute of Animal Health confirmed March 1 the presence of H7N6 in quail samples. Although the affected farm reported no increase in mortality among the quail, MAFF and the Aichi Prefectural Government have begun eliminating the 260,000 quail on the affected farm and are prohibiting shipment of quail, other poultry, and eggs from the 23 farms located within five kilometers of the infection site. The H7 strain has not been detected in domestic flocks in Japan since 1925. It is the first detection of the H7N6 subtype in Japan.

[1](#)3. The Aichi prefectural government announced March 2 that another farm in the area tested positive for avian influenza virus and confirmed March 4 the H7 strain was present on the farm.

[1](#)4. Aichi prefecture is one of Japan's leading production centers for quail eggs. The 38 quail farms in the prefecture produce 70 percent of the country's total production. The sixteen farms located in Toyohashi raise approximately 2,890,000 quail. Aichi Governor Masaaki Kanda appealed to the public to remain calm, noting there is no danger of infection from eating the eggs or the meat of the infected quail.

ZUMWALT